

REMARKS

Claims 7 and 12 were rejected, claims 8-11 were objected to, and claims 13, 15-17, and 29-31 were allowed in the final office action mailed on September 2, 2010.

With this response, certain of the claims have been amended/cancelled to place the application in condition for allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116.

In particular, independent claim 7 is amended to recite the allowable subject matter of claim 8.

Claim 8 is cancelled.

Claims 9-11 are amended to further define patentably distinct amended independent claim 7.

Claim 12 further defines patentably distinct amended independent claim 7.

Claims 13, 15-17, and 29-31 were allowed, which is noted with appreciation.

Thus, it is believed that all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

A Notice of Allowance for pending claims 7, 9-13, 15-17, and 29-31 is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is urged to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner determines that there remain issues outstanding that would preclude the mailing of the Notice of Allowance.

No fees are due at this time. However, the office is authorized to charge fees actually due and credit any overpayment to deposit account 50-4439.

Respectfully submitted,
Moeller-Jensen et al.

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/Nick Baumann/
Nick Baumann, Reg. No. 56,161
Coloplast Corp., Coloplast A/S
Customer No. 69289
Telephone: (612) 287-4178